



Soccer News



Bell
(Yallourn)

The Official Organ of

Weatherall
(Prahran)

VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1951

Price 6d.



This is STEVE !

STEVE CZAUDERNA—Victoria's goalie—against the Englishmen on June 6 and 9 played rattling good games. Steve came only recently from Poland to Australia and now plays with Polonia. The members of the Victorian team have asked particularly that we give Steve the front page this week to himself. We agree he deserves it. Together with the Victorian team "Soccer News"

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.B.



I regret that, owing to the holiday week-end, this Editorial must be written before the Australian XI game was played. The Victorians, although the visitors showed their tremendous superiority in all departments, were by no means disgraced. In both games they made the Englishmen work hard for their goals and fought tooth and nail right to the final whistle. Of such stuff are great footballers made, and I think we may all feel proud of the showing our boys put up.

On our front page we have published, at the request of the Victorian team, the photo of Steve Czauderna, Victoria's goalie. He undoubtedly was the man of the hour. The Victorian council presented a Koala bear, as a souvenir, to each member of the English team. "Soccer News" is presenting one to Steve. He deserves it and we hope he likes it.

And so today we return to the humdrum run of everyday life, with football in the park, just as it was years ago before soccer drew crowds of 35,000 in Victoria. (Don't laugh — 29,500 of them paid too, and we shall do it again.) I do not think many of us imagined that we should ever see the "outer" at the M.C.G. packed as it was on Saturday last for soccer. What a thrill we all had, and what a pleasant shock it was to our friends from Sydney. We are glad also that our old friend, Rex Benson, got to the game with a party from Heidelberg hospital. Harry Bamford, of the English team, contacted him at once, for he and Rex used to work together in Bristol.

On another page we have a write-up by a staff writer on the series, so further comment is unnecessary here. We are deeply grateful to the Press for the marvellous publicity they gave us. The scare story started by one paper undoubtedly brought the game to the notice of people who otherwise would never read the sporting pages. The radio also gave a wonderful coverage to the tour. The thought of five stations on one day featuring soccer was too much for my set.

The thanks of this paper are due to the 14 boys from Brighton Juniors, who came to our assistance and sold a record number of "Soccer News" under very difficult circumstances of the M.C.G. (Programmes may not be sold inside that edifice.) The ground arrangements, so far as getting in was concerned, also left a lot to be desired. This was in no way the fault of the V.A.S.F.A. as the turnstiles are operated by the ground staff and insufficient gates were opened, causing many people who had come a long way to miss much valuable time at the game. It is hoped that now we have proved soccer has a definite following that the authorities concerned will allow for that fact in future.

Acknowledgement

The Victorian Soccer Football Association would like to express its gratitude and appreciation to the Richmond Football Club and the Richmond Cricket Club, for their hospitality in entertaining the English and Australian teams at Richmond Ground after the international match on Monday, King's Birthday, June 11, 1951.

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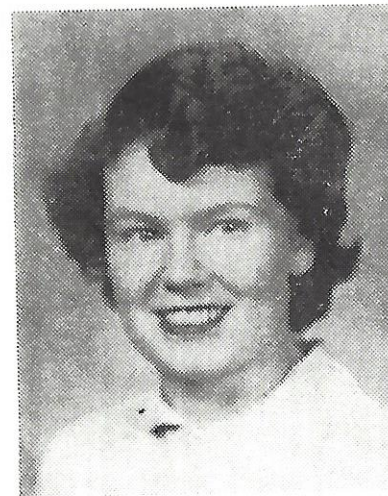
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Soccer Queen Carnival



Jeanette Gorman
Miss Brighton

We wish to introduce Brighton's entry for the Queen Carnival, attractive, auburn-haired Jeanette Gorman, whose friendliness and charming personality make her a worthy representative of this club.

Jeanette, who is a laboratory assistant with a leading food company, is interested in tennis, dancing and record collecting, both modern and classical.

We have tried here to give a brief description of our Queen and her interests, but we feel that she is a person whom you must meet to appreciate her attractiveness and those qualities which have made us choose Jeanette as our nominee for the Queen Carnival.



In this land of ours — in this Australia of kindness, of friendship, of good humoured tolerance . . . perhaps no beverage is more at home than good Australian beer. For beer is a drink Australians like. It is a part of pleasant living, of good fellowship, of sensible moderation. And our right to enjoy it . . . this too is a part of our Australian heritage of personal freedom.

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"WAKE UP"

By JACK GUTHRIE

When one visits the various soccer grounds and listens in to the talk on the touch lines, one is surprised at the absence of any talk on the schoolboys.

Why did this situation develop? The schoolboys are the foundation of the soccer game here in Victoria. In years gone by, when soccer was at a higher standard than what it is today, the leading clubs were not interested in schoolboys' soccer, and as the years rolled on the leading clubs went out of existence as migration had stopped and there was no schoolboy soccer.

Today we are in much the same position. No doubt many of the leading clubs are putting on a good brand of soccer. But who are the spectators? How many native born Australians are being drawn into the game? The overseas player has a great responsibility on his shoulders and he has to be taught that that responsibility is to teach and encourage the young Australian soccer player.

Of course many people will say that the club officials are to blame, which is not correct, as many of them are over-worked at the present time. How many spectators realise that many of the officials are out till 12 o'clock three nights a week. Some spectators criticise while watching a game and put a "tray bit" in the box. But ask these same people to do something for the game and the answer is "I am too busy." What a poor excuse. They are never too busy to get a cheap afternoon's sport.

The time has arrived when the Australian schoolboy soccer player has got to be recognised and in a big way. To the clubs who have no juniors or schoolboy teams, get busy before it is too late. The material is there to be handled. It only requires some real good club man to say, "I will look after the schoolboys," and that club is assured of players without relying on the migration scheme.

What a grand thing it will be in years to come when some club-men can say, "Well I helped to produce some of the finest soccer players in Australia." So to club officials I would say once again, "Do not leave it too late, get schoolboy teams formed as quickly as possible, and there will be nothing to fear for soccer here in Victoria."

Charity Game

Hakoah J.R.C. v. J.U.S.T. on Sunday, June 17, at Yarra Park, at 2.45 p.m. Proceeds in aid of Caulfield Jewish Kindergarten.

Both teams will be fielding their strongest eleven, therefore a good exhibition of soccer is assured.

Official certified sale of "Soccer News" on Saturday, June 9, at the Melbourne Cricket Ground was 8536. This is an all time record for the paper. ED.

WORLD CUP TRIAL—FRIENDLY GAME

Park Rangers' Ground

Sunday (Tomorrow), June 17, Kick-off 3 p.m.

All players meet at dressing-rooms 2.30

SCOTLAND'S TEAM

Sinclair (Brighton)

Clarke (Moreland)

Drummond (Brighton)

Drane (Sunshine Utd.)

Jack (Brighton, Capt.)

Lawrie (Foots., V. Capt.)

Clarke (Park Rangers)

Sharpe (Moreland)

Neil (Box Hill)

Ramsay (Sunshine United)

McFetters (Box Hill)

Night Football In Paris

From "Soccer News" Overseas Correspondent,

RICHARD DREYFUS.



The shiny white ball flew past the goalkeeper into the net. Eighteen thousand Parisians got to their feet and roared. Their team, Racing Club de Paris, had just scored its first goal against the crack Red Star eleven of Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Night football is an exciting spectacle and when it is played with such skill and sportsmanship as at the Park of the Princes in Paris this week in May, then it is also sheer joy for the soccer fan, especially if he is from Australia and has never seen night football before. Admission is cheap. It costs from 2/- for the "outer" to 15/- for best seats in the centre of the grandstand.

Twenty-two batteries of floodlights, mounted on top of huge concrete stands, illuminate the playing arena. When the ball flies over or to the side of the goalposts it disappears into the murky dark. Sitting high up in the stands on a starless night is like watching pictures from the upper circle of a theatre. You can clearly see the screen, but can make out only very few of those who are watching the spectacle with you.

Both Red Star and R.C.deP., the leading Paris team, turned on a brilliant brand of football — much better than I had seen before anywhere. The ball rarely rose more than three inches off the bowling green-like turf as it was passed quickly and accurately from man to man. The home team was first to score with a fine one-man effort by international centre-forward, Roger Quenolle. Red Star equalised two minutes later from a scramble in front of goal. R.C.deP. scored again but the Yugoslavians, showing great fighting spirit and tenacity, drew level once more. However, Quenolle beat the Red Star goalie again and at half-time the home side led 3-2.

After the interval the Yugoslavians played much more purposeful and harder football. They mixed long driving kicks with their short passes and left their opponents standing flatfooted on a number of occasions.

After Red Stars had rattled on three quick goals, to lead 5-3, and their outside-right was preparing to take a corner kick, the battery of lights nearest to him suddenly went out. The lights flashed on and off again several times to the crowd's great amusement. Then loudspeakers informed us that a fuse had blown; "it would be repaired very quickly," the voice said.

It was. The Yugoslavian forward took his kick and a couple of minutes later, after five minutes less than 45 minutes playing time, the almost perfect referee blew the final whistle. In the excitement of the battle and the lights, he'd forgotten to play "time on."

ANSWER TO JUNE 2 QUIZ

(Answer: Team A kicks off at the start of the match. Team B scores right on half-time, leaving team A no time to centre-off. Team B kicks off after the resumption and scores without a player of A touching the ball).

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Room For All

By ANGUS DRENNAN (Senior)

I have read with interest the article, Local and Imported, by Alex Jarvis. The writer appears to see danger in having too many players on the books, especially if they come from other lands. This is in such direct conflict with my experience as an official of Sunshine United, that my views may be of interest to readers of "Soccer News."

Last year I believe we had something like fifty potential players on our books, and in the previous season similar conditions prevailed. A large percentage of this potential were young men from the Home Land and from Europe. A series of elimination games reduced the numbers so much that most people would be surprised. I am of the opinion that we will never have large numbers of ready-made players from overseas while present local conditions prevail, for the simple reason that if they have soccer ability above the average they will remain in their own country where soccer is a highly paid profession. Experience at Sunshine would tend to suggest that no more than 5 per cent. of new arrivals could make the grade for our first division teams. With four out of five coming from Scotland and England, I believe that great soccer players here will be Australian boys in whom have been instilled by their parents — the present migrants — a love of soccer. These boys won't all have English or Scottish names, but they will nevertheless be good Aussies and great soccer players. No, I cannot believe that anything but good can happen to soccer by the present influx of new Australians.

Now for a word about our young players. I believe that too much time and money are spent in the development of senior games and the watching of players who have arrived, and not enough time spent of training young boys. I would like to see a full or part time professional coach brought from the Old Country, whose duties would include coaching classes in order that something of a uniform and simple system of teaching boys may be laid down. While I have nothing but admiration for men who devote their leisure time with these boys, I feel that there should be a coaches' association formed. Such an association under a competent teacher would lift the standard of teaching in the basic fundamentals of soccer. The wisdom of spending more and yet more time on our boys' early training is too obvious to need stressing.

Well, Mr. Editor, I don't know if this letter fully meets your invitation to reply on Local and Imported, but it may further stimulate constructive thought on the matter. In conclusion, I dislike making suggestions unless I am prepared to help them to function, and while fully conscious of my limitations, I am willing at all times to help along the lines this letter suggests, in order to raise the standard in Victoria of the greatest game in the universe.

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HOME and AWAY

By REX BENSON



Paddy Weatherall turned up trumps at the M.C.G. last Saturday against the English tourists. Picked as reserve half-back, Paddy was called in at the last minute to fill the place of Joe Kennedy (down with flu).

GOOD ENOUGH FOR SCOTLAND

Although only the reserve goalkeeper for Chelsea, Jackson, was the regular keeper for Scotland. His opposite number in the England goal was Woodley. Yes, you have guessed it; Woodley was the Chelsea first team goalkeeper.

THE LONG THROW

Sam Weaver, the former England left-half, could throw in a ball to the far goal-post, a distance of forty yards. Worth a corner-kick to his side.

THE WEMBLEY TOUCH

Over 53,000 to watch the English Schoolboys beat the Welsh Schoolboys at Wembley. All matches there may soon be ticket games: present ones are internationals and Cup Finals (including this year's Amateur final, in which I covered previously).

QUIZ

The ball is kicked into goal and the referee orders a corner-kick. Can this be correct?

Answer: Yes. If the ball has blown back into goal direct from a goal-kick.

Tommy Bell, of Yallourn, overshadowed by big "Reg Flewin" (England's captain), was far from over-awed by the company he was in. Beaten in the air consistently, when he got the "pass" on the carpet, Tommy made rings around the great man on several occasions.



G. HURST, Charlton Athletic

FANS FLOCK TO FLOODLIT FOOTBALL

The annual "blood"-match, Jockeys v. Boxers, a frolicsome affair usually watched by a handful of spectators, was this year staged at Arsenal under flood-lighting. Attendance was 30,000.

CURTAIN RAISERS FROWNED UPON

The English tourists have quickly complained of the state of the pitch due to unimportant curtain raisers before the main game. The practice is unusual in other countries.

PROUD RECORD

England has never been beaten on home soil by a foreign international team. Several have managed to draw.

TOURIST TOP-NOTCHERS

In the last representative match between the English League and the Irish League, the two English wingers were Gordon Hurst and Bobby Langton.

Reg Flewin (England's captain) is not too big to come down to the level

After Thoughts

By ALEX BARR

No doubt everyone who reads this article has seen all the games against England. However, let us consider some of the finer points of the games. Unfortunately we didn't see Bartram or Burgin under pressure, but it must be recalled how cleverly they could change the play to the attack. Burgin's long clearances were an object lesson which I trust will not be forgotten. Full-backs also should reflect on the covering-up, restrained tackling and lovely distribution demonstrated by their English counterparts. Fluidity of the wing-halves has caused a few people to suspect that England had more than the prescribed eleven men on the ground. For pure ball control and split second judgment Bob Langton delighted everyone; his cheeky approach to an opponent, now fast, then slow, must be very disconcerting to a full-back. Going back to a conversation with him, I would like to pass on a few comments which he made. He is of the opinion that we don't use the square pass nearly enough, and that a short pass to a colleague is better than a long kick to an opponent. We should all gain a lot of knowledge from these games. It was noticeable that the Victorian team profited from Wednesday's lesson and played with more confidence on Saturday. At this point let me say that Victorian representatives have nothing to be ashamed of. They were stubborn and tireless against highly paid men whose business is football. Saturday saw Sewell score all seven goals. Uncanny judgment in the air and brilliant ball control were two things which stamp him as "class." Angus Drennan should be proud that he held Sewell on even a few occasions. Victoria's few attacking movements usually started from Drummond, then a pass to Drennan and so on up to a forward. We want a lot more of that type of football.

Honours for both Victorian games must go to Czuderna. His performances in both games put him in international class (U.K. standard). All the English players spoke very highly of him, and I did notice him being congratulated on a number of occasions by his opponents. Even with ten men on the ground England always had a loose man, proving, of course, that it is not the man with the ball who dictates the play, but the man moving to the open play ready for a pass.

Surely now we have seen good football barrackers will not criticise players who appear to hold up play by back passing, or by waiting for a team mate going to the open space. The Englishmen only moved at full speed when making the final break through. Their nonchalant approach, followed by a sharp burst of speed, is very hard to counter. That in itself, if copied, could change Victorian football considerably. Possession is nine parts of the law; it is nine parts of football also. How many wild kicks did the F.A. team make? Very, very few. They believe, and rightly so, that "every ball should find a man." It is not so in our local games. It would appear that here "every man should find the ball."

On Monday we saw an Australian XI fielded against the Englishmen. Candidly my opinion is the Victorians did at least as well in their two encounters. Once more, subtle, clever ball-control was the highlight; clever flicks, twists and dummies, beautiful body swerves, clever placements and superior heading won the day. Many Australian Rules fans openly stated that if soccer is a clever scientific game, why don't the local boys try to use brains instead of brawn? Too many alleged soccer fans advocate "play the man;" that is supposed to appeal

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GIPPSLAND GLEANINGS

New Soccer League Formed

The keen and growing interest in Gippsland soccer was evidenced on Wednesday, May 23, when, at a crowded meeting in the Morwell Band Hall, delegates from Morwell, Maryvale, Yallourn and Heyfield decided to form the Latrobe Valley Soccer League.

It was also decided to approach the R.A.A.F. at East Sale and the Heyfield delegates expressed the view that a Service team would almost certainly be entered.

A special vote of thanks was accorded to "the grand old man of Gippsland soccer," Mr. Norman Minor, by the chairman, Mr. G. Carr, of Yallourn.

"Mr. Minor has done the spade work here," said Mr. Carr, "and it hasn't all been merely a matter of writing letters."

After Thoughts (Continued)

to a few fans. However, after seeing England on three occasions, surely all thoughts of such tactics should be dispelled. Again we saw a goal-keeper Star. Surely that reflects on the defence? "Make the ball do the work" should be the catch word of every committee for many months to come.

Unselfishness has been well demonstrated by our guests; that too, should be remembered. After all, the actual goal-scorer is still only a member of a team.

The attendances at all games were beyond all expectations. The financial success of the tour is now definitely secure, and I venture to say that before the "boys" depart the Australian Council will have a nice solid cheque in the bank. The English boys have been very popular with everyone who met them during their stay in Melbourne. Many stories will be told and I will leave them to someone else to tell.

I will conclude by saying that I know every Englishman enjoyed his stay in Victoria, from the first game onwards. The dance held in their honour at South Melbourne was one of the highlights of their visit. Miladies of the Queen Carnival Competition organised it at short notice and our thanks must all go to them. Peter Polites comes in for his share of credit for the lovely party at his home. I do believe, however, that Sam Bartram and Bob Langton reckoned it finished too early, they enjoyed it so much. Our good friend Geoffrey Cohen also entertained our guests at Hotel Australia to a wonderful dinner.

We have seen the first professional touring team but not the last. Mr. Adams, joint manager, stated he intends to recommend a visit every two years. Roll on two years. If a football nursery was opened now, in two years we might cause the visitors to play even better and cause our fans to be even more thrilled, as Mr. Fitzpatrick, of Travelogue fame, would say.

It is with regret and almost deep sorrow that we said, "Farewell you wizards of the round ball, goodbye to you artists who weaved a wondrous pattern across our green fields and cheers to you gentlemen who always recognised good work by an opponent."

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Be Your Own Propagandist

By VIC ROSE

Propaganda today is absolutely necessary for the development of any enterprise, whether it be of a commercial or sporting nature. This is doubly so in connection with soccer, owing to the narrow outlook on the game adopted by the Victorian Press.

Every follower of soccer in Victoria can do invaluable work to overcome this state of affairs by spreading the good word among his or her circle of acquaintances, either at work or elsewhere.

Do not attempt to sell soccer on the demerits of other codes. That will only create bad will. Rather, emphasise the salient facts concerning our own game. Point out that soccer is a modern game (roughly about the same age as Australian Rules), but whereas the local game is confined to about half of the country of its origin, soccer is world-wide, and is the national sport of many countries; show the uninitiated that the class soccer player has the world literally at his feet, whereas the Aussie Rules star is practically unknown outside of the four States where the game predominates.

Write letters to the press and radio requesting more space. It only costs a 3d. stamp, and a hundred letters to a paper makes the editor sit up and take notice. Remember that the overwhelming percentage of new comers to our country are soccer fans, and go out of your way to show them where they can see a game, stress the fact that we urgently want **their** support, either as a player, official or spectator.

Remember always that when you boost soccer, you are talking about the sport that has the greatest drawing power of any game of any kind in the world.

PROTECTION FOR GOALKEEPERS

By REX BENSON

Harry Hopman, in a "Herald" sporting article last week, mentioned an "unwritten law" against charging the goalkeeper, and quoted the unfortunate accident to Johnny Thomson. As an amplification of his remarks, and to rectify any misunderstandings, this is the ruling in British football, and the reasons leading to it.

Prior to 1936, the goalkeeper could be fairly charged, but a player could also attempt to kick the ball from his grasp. Thomson, Celtic's international keeper, died after diving to the centre-forward's feet in the match against Glasgow Rangers in September, 1931. Sam English, the opposing forward, was in no way to blame, and no alteration to the rules was considered. However, in 1935, Thorpe, the Sunderland goalkeeper, was kicked on the head by a Chelsea player in a goalmouth scramble, and died as a result. It was considered that dangerous kicking caused his injury, and the rule was altered to prevent any player raising his foot to a goalkeeper. A further concession was granted in that the keeper was allowed to run four steps without bouncing the ball, instead of three, and all goalkicks had to be kicked out of the penalty area.

The rules still allow the custodian to be fairly charged, and if charged into goal while holding the ball, a goal is allowed. Keepers should remember this, and punch away when surrounded by players on the goal-line.

ISRAEL WORLD CUP TEAM

A Jewish team to represent Israel will take part in the World Cup Competitions.

Football on a Table Top

By J. J. FREAME

Impossible! Far from it, disbeliever. A game has been invented—Table Soccer, claimed to bring association football from the field to a table, any table.

And indeed, these claims are true. Table soccer is a game where victory or defeat depends upon the skill of the player instead of by the shape of a dice or the turn of a card.

All the thrills of real football are reproduced: dribbling, corner and penalty kicks, offside, throw-ins, injuries, fouls are all in the make-up. A man can even be ordered off!

The game is sweeping Great Britain. There are about five thousand members in the Table Soccer Players' Association, most of whom play in leagues. Promotion and relegation are involved in leagues consisting of two divisions.

But that isn't all. Table soccer claims to be the only table game in existence that can boast international matches. Perhaps an exception is table tennis. Annually, matches are played between Great Britain, France and Belgium.

Although interesting, the above facts are probably becoming tedious, so I will settle down and describe the game itself.

"Subbuteo" table soccer was invented by P. A. Adolph, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent. It is played with twenty-two miniature men, ball and goals. The pitch, 48" x 32" (a baize cloth, but a blanket is just as good), is marked out in a similar manner to a soccer field.

The men, manufactured from cardboard or celluloid plastic, are approximately an inch and a half high, and are mounted on coloured, hemispherical plastic bases, half inch diameter. These men are scientifically designed so as to be 100% self-balancing, and the base design reproduces body swerving.

The men can be obtained in twenty-four different coloured shirts, representing the 92 English league clubs. Hoops, stripes and black or white shirts are all available, and each shirt is numbered.

The goals give an added touch of realism to the game. They have a solidly built wire frame, white posts, and are backed by brown netting.

I must add, before commencing the method of play, that one player controls a team, although more can join in.

The ball is "kicked" by the following method. The index or middle finger (whichever is more comfortable) is placed behind the man. Using the table top, not the thumb, as a spring, the man is flicked at the ball. By flicking different spots on the base, the man can be made to swerve around an opponent, propel the

(Continued on Page 12)

Soccer Players Do you want an interesting well paid position?



If you have a good State School education and are between 14 and 25 years of age, we would be glad to hear from you.

Our previous advertisement here caught the eye of Ted Smith (whose photo you see), of Preston's Under 17 team, with the result that he has joined our Staff and is now engaged on interesting and important work.

Ring Mr. W. R. Thomas, Deputy Chairman of the Victorian Soccer Council (Private Phone, UIL 9572) or Mr. N. Clayton, MB 2381, for further details.

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Football on a Table Top (Continued)

ball in any direction required, or even lob that ball over an opponent's head. The ball, incidentally, is an inch in diameter.

Now, to describe part of a match. The two players meet, shake hands. A coin is tossed, winner decides to kick towards the fireplace. The two teams, Reds and Blues, are placed in position, and all is in readiness for the first twenty-five minute half.

The Reds kick off, and the Blues are hard pressed. After a corner, the Blues suddenly break clear, and with sweeping passes, the ball is rushed into their opponents' half. The Reds' defence panics. A forward is fouled. The inside-right whips the ball to the centre-forward, who shoots. The ball hits the upright, rebounds to the left-winger, who smashes the ball in. The net bulges. Goal!

And so it goes on. Fifty minutes of thrills, tactics, and split second decisions.

There is a league in existence in Victoria, in the town of Portland, on the south-west coast. It was formed by me last year, and consisted of six-members, each of whom selected a British club. These were: Arsenal, Blackpool, Cardiff City, Derby County, Manchester City and Wolverhampton Wanderers. I was secretary of the league last year, and I sympathise with the V.A.S.F.A. secretary as far as tables are concerned! I believe it is the only league in existence in Australia, but I hope I am incorrect.

The rivalry between the six of us was intense, as each fought to uphold the honour of the club he represented. This year, the league consists of eleven members, with six others waiting to participate in the Challenge Cup.

"Subbuteo" table soccer will delight any soccer fan. An owner of a set becomes manager, selector and player of his favourite club. Only from experience does one realise the tenseness of a vital match, the keen fight to retain top position on the league table or struggle clear of the bottom.

This game was requested by the crack English side, Manchester United, 1947-48 Cup winners, for instructional purposes. What higher recommendation could a game have?

RON TODD

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RON TODD'S SPORTS CENTRE

**Letters To The Editor**

Readers are invited to send along queries, suggestions, etc., to the Editor. All will be given appropriate consideration.

Sir,—May I make some comment, as opposed to "Reccos" in his "Junior Natterings" in May 26 issue

He claims that wing-halves marking wing-forwards is orthodox soccer. It is unsound strategy for the wing-halves to mark wing-forwards. Surely it can be seen that by so doing the already overworked centre-half has to look after the two craftsmen of the opposing attack, plus the fast-moving and continually attacking centre-forward.

In contemporary times, when the full-backs must be fast in defence, it is their sole duty to prevent the opposing wings from centring. With the three opposing inside forwards held tight in the grips of the half-back line, defence is continually turned into attack by fast time kicking by the full-backs. I think that my statements will be borne out by the visiting English team. —Yours, etc., A. J. ESSEX, Hakoah J.R.C.

Sir,—The standard of soccer in the First Division is a credit to the association. If there is any matter that requires classification it is the growing practice of linesmen, who in many cases have no qualifications, to endeavour to influence, and in two important matches here, they have succeeded to cause the referee to change his decision.

At a recent match at Yallourn, two linesmen, both qualified (Victorian Referee and Scottish League respectively), definitely caused bad feeling to develop between the players, and caused the referee to lose tight control of the game, by flagging doubtful offsides and other offences that the referee had decided were border line cases.

I cannot speak for Melbourne games, but the association in Victoria definitely should allocate referees and linesmen who are qualified men. The centre referee should be in complete control and the linesmen only advise when the ball has gone over the line for a throw in. —Yours, etc., "YALLOURN SPEC-TATOR."

Sir,—Mr. Alex Jarvis has certainly put his finger upon what we have long considered the Achilles heel of Victorian soccer, namely—the failure to attract and hold the Australian born.

After thirty years or more of soccer in Victoria, we can only manage to field two local players to meet the visiting Englishmen.

Between the two world wars, when immigration was at zero, we undertook the task of training local boys, and just prior to the present immigration flood, most clubs had a good sprinkling of these lads in their senior teams, but one by one they have been replaced by the new arrivals, in many cases for no other reason than that these new arrivals came from the "home of soccer." Where they have not been edged out in this manner, they have been driven out by the "Pommy Atmosphere" prevalent in many clubrooms.

As Mr. Jarvis suggests, let these new arrivals form their own clubs, like the New Australians from Europe. Finally, if any of these discarded Aussies are still interested in soccer as players, then they will have my support in forming their own club or obtaining control of one of the established clubs, and I promise not to tell them how Chelsea beat Newcastle United in the cup-tie final in 1899. —Yours, etc. ROBERT THOMAS. [Bet this will start something, EDITOR].

Sir,—I wish to point out an error in the copies of "Soccer News" of June 6 and June 9, referring to Weatherall, who played for Linfield in Ireland. This team plays in the Irish League in northern Ireland, not in Eire. The association in Eire has been a separate body, known as the League of Ireland.

LEAGUE TABLES AS AT JUNE 2, 1951

[illegible]

June 2.—Fifers v. Juventus. (Result not telephoned. Fifers, please phone result to LB 1444.)

First Division		Reserves					June 2.—Fifers v. Juventus. (Result not telephoned. Fifers, please phone result to LB 1444.)				
Park Rangers	10	6	2	2	37	16	21				
South Yarra	10	4	1	5	18	15	3				
Prahran	10	6	3	1	32	17	3				
Yallourn	10	5	3	2	31	16	1				
Sunshine United	9	5	3	1	23	15	1				
Box Hill	9	5	5	0	25	22	1				
Brighton	9	4	3	2	15	11	1				
Footscray City	10	2	6	2	15	26	1				
Sandringham City	10	2	7	1	8	20	1				
Sunshine City	10	2	8	0	13	38	1				

Third Division		Reserves					
Belonia	10	10	0	0	75	10	20
Park Rangers	10	8	0	2	33	11	18
South Yarra	9	6	1	2	42	20	14
Williamstown	10	5	2	3	39	33	13
R.A.A.F.	8	4	2	2	36	28	10
Coburg	9	4	4	1	39	28	9

May 26.—Brighton v. Park Rangers.
sult not telephoned. Brighton, please
result to LB 1444.)

Second Division Reserves		Olympic	7	1	6	0	3	50	2
Moreland	9 9 0 0 29	Moorabbin City	9	0	9	0	13	51	6
Hakoah J.R.C.	9 7 1 1 28	Royal Caledonians	7	0	7	0	5	29	0

9	7	2	0	27	0	May 26.—Brighton v. R.A.A.F. (Result
10	5	5	0	27	0	not telephoned. Brighton, please phone re-
10	4	5	1	19	30	sult to LB 1444.)
10	4	5	1	19	30	

F.N.D.	10	4	5	1	10	8
George Cross	10	4	6	0	17	8
Fifers	9	2	5	2	15	6
Preston	10	2	7	1	10	10

June 2. — Royal Caledonians v. Coburg, and Moorabbin City v. Olympic. These games were not played.

JUNIOR LEAGUE TABLES AS AT JUNE 2, 1951

JUNIOR LEAGUE TABLES									
Under 19 Division					Under 15 Division				
Brighton	7	7	0	0 22	Preston	7	1	4	2 6 16
Preston	7	3	1	0 25	Coburg	6	0	4	2 7 15
Juventus	5	4	2	1 15					
Sunshine United	5	4	1	0 16	Sunshine United	6	6	0	0 28
South Melbourne	6	3	1	2 17	Brighton "A"	8	4	2	2 36
Moorabbin City	5	1	3	1 5 10	Northcote	7	5	2	0 23
Sandringham City	5	1	3	1 5 13	South Melbourne	6	4	1	1 16
Footscray City	4	1	3	0 4 10	Brighton "B"	7	2	3	2 15
Northcote	5	1	4	0 10 15	Park Rangers	7	2	3	2 14
Hakoah J.R.C.	7	0	6	1 2 3	Preston	7	3	4	0 13
Yallourn	4	0	4	0 3 1	Box Hill	6	2	3	1 10
					Ringwood Boys	7	2	5	0 13
					Moreland	6	1	5	0 5
					South Yarra	6	0	6	0 2
Under 17 "A" Section					Under 14 Division				
Brighton	7	5	0	2 23	Park Rangers	8	6	1	1 45
Sandringham City	7	3	3	1 23	Coburg	7	6	0	1 38
Arm. Appren. "A"	6	3	2	1 14	Sandringham City	8	5	1	2 41
South Yarra	7	3	3	1 14	South Melb. "A"	7	4	1	2 46
Park Rangers	7	2	4	1 10	Box Hill "A"	8	4	4	0 29
Sunshine United	7	2	4	1 5 14	Sunshine City	7	3	4	0 33
Sunshine City	7	2	4	1 4 20	Brighton	8	3	5	0 10
					Moorabbin City	8	2	6	0 5
Under 17 "B" Section					Box Hill "B"	7	1	6	0 2
Northcote	8	6	1	1 17	South Melb. "B"	8	1	7	0 1
Box Hill	8	5	1	2 29					
South Melbourne	6	4	1	1 16					
Arm. Appren. "B"	8	1	4	3 27					